

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8611

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1770

EXDIS

FROM AMBASSADOR DALE FOR AMBASSADOR SILBERMAN

IO FOR ASST SECY LEWIS; LABOR FOR SEGALL

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ILO PORG
SUBJECT: REACTION TO CONSULTATIONS ON ILO WITH SPECIAL
PRESIDENTIAL ENVOY

REF: GENEVA 1760

1. AS YOU SUGGESTED I ASKED FRG AND FRENCH AMBASSADORS ABOUT REACTION TO YOUR PRESENTATION. THEIR REPLIES SUGGEST THAT UK STORY ABOUT STRONG REACTION TO YOUR PRESENTATION IN BONN AND PARIS PROBABLY DECEPTIVE AND AT LEAST HIGHLY EXAGGERATED.

2. I ASKED FRG AMBASSADOR WHAT BONN'S REACTION TO YOUR PRESENTATION HAD BEEN AND PARTICULARLY WHETHER THEY HAD FOUND IT OFFENSIVE. HE SAID IT WAS NOT AT ALL OFFENSIVE BUT THAT THEY HAD BEEN SURPRISED THAT YOUR PRESENTATION WAS STRONGER THAN US NOTICE OF INTENT TO WITHDRAW FROM ILO. I TOLD HIM THIS WAS CORRECT READING AND THAT YOUR PRESENTATION TOGETHER WITH LETTER REPRESENTS UNIFIED POSITION OF USG, AFL-CIO AND US EMPLOYERS ON ILO. I ALSO ASKED HIM TO LET ME KNOW IF AND WHEN FOREIGN MINISTER WOULD LIKE YOU TO RETURN TO BONN TO DISCUSS RESULTS OF YOUR TRIP.

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3. FRENCH AMBASSADOR SAID FOREIGN MINISTER FELT HE WAS BEING

TOLD WHAT HE SHOULD DO AND THAT THERE WAS NO ROOM FOR NEGOTIATION OR GIVE AND TAKE IN YOUR POSITION. AFTER REFLECTION SAUVAGNARGUES FELT YOU MAY HAVE TAKEN HARD LINE AT THIS TIME IN ORDER TO COME OUT BETTER IN SUBSEQUENT BARGAINING. FRENCH AMBASSADOR CLEARLY IMPLIED SAUVAGNARGUES NOT HAPPY WITH US "DEMANDS".

4. UK AMBASSADOR REPEATED HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT REACTION TO YOUR PRESENTATION HAD BEEN NEGATIVE BOTH IN PARIS AND IN BONN. I DID NOT PRESS MATTER WITH HIM. I THANKED HIM FOR STATEMENT MADE BY UK ON BEHALF OF EC-9 (ON 74 CONFERENCE RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ISRAEL FOR VIOLATION OF ARAB TRADE UNION RIGHTS) IN GOVERNING BODY MARCH 5 (REFTEL).

5. AT THIS TIME IT IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER UK TAKING THIS POSITION ONLY WITH US OR WHETHER THEY ACTIVELY SPREADING FALSE STORY OF HARD REACTION IN BONN AND PARIS. WE WILL CONTINUE TO FOLLOW THIS CLOSELY AND KEEP YOU INFORMED. DALE

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